

## **Commission on the Arts and Humanities**

## CAH (BX)

#### **MISSION**

The mission of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCAH) is to provide grants, programs and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities, so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city.

#### **SUMMARY OF SERVICES**

DCCAH is governed by volunteers who are appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. DCCAH provides financial support and conducts programming in three primary areas:

- **DC Creates Public Art**. Provides high quality art installations and administrative support services for the public so they can benefit from an enhanced visual environment.
- Arts Learning and Outreach. Provides grants, educational activities and outreach services for youth, young adults, and the general public so they can gain a deeper appreciation for the arts and enhance the overall quality of their lives.
- Arts Building Communities (Grants and Programs). Provides grants, performances, exhibitions, and other services to individual artists, arts organizations, and community groups.

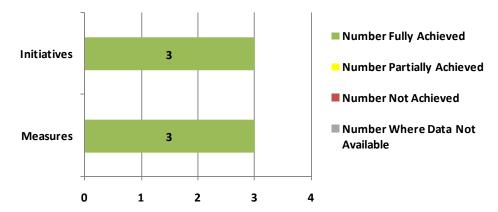
### **AGENCY OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Provide access to the arts for all District residents.
- 2. Promote lifelong learning and interest in the arts and arts education for all ages.
- 3. Build communities through public and private partnerships in the arts.

## **3 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- ✓ Increased the total number of grant awards from 482 in FY 2007 to 664 in FY 2008, an increase of 28%.
- ✓ Launched a marketing and outreach initiative that included the hiring of an arts outreach coordinator and the development of two seven-minute cable episodes highlighting artists and arts developments.
- ✓ Successfully executed the Murals DC project, which installed 12 graffiti-style murals throughout District neighborhoods.

### **OVERVIEW OF AGENCY PERFORMANCE**





## Performance Initiatives – Assessment Details

Performance Assessment Key:

Fully achieved Partially achieved Not achieved Data not reported

OBJECTIVE 1: Provide access to the arts for all District residents.

No initiatives reported for this objective in FY08

**OBJECTIVE 2: Promote lifelong learning and interest in the arts and arts education for all ages.** 

INITIATIVE 2.1: Expand arts education opportunities in DC Public and Charter Schools.
Fully Achieved. In FY 2008, DCCAH continued to support the operation of an arts education curriculum in eight DC schools. A recent survey shows that nearly two-thirds of participating teachers believed that the standards introduced through this program enabled students to creatively develop and express "ideas that were important to them."

**OBJECTIVE 3:** Build communities through public and private partnerships in the arts.

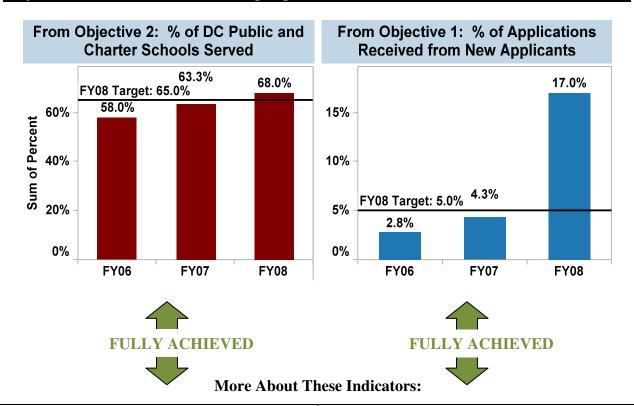
- INITIATIVE 3.1: Strengthen the impact of the arts in District neighborhoods.

  Fully Achieved. In FY2008, DCCAH awarded eight Cultural Facility Program grants, ten UpStart grants, and 41 Grants-in-Aid grants. DCCAH has also completed several neighborhood public art project including 12 graffitistyle murals in six wards as part of anti-graffiti efforts in the District.
- INITIATIVE 3.2: Increase participation in Arts Commission grant programs.

  Fully Achieved. In FY 2008, DCCAH redesigned its grant applications to be more user-friendly, including PDF fill-in-versions on the website. They also hired their first Arts Outreach Coordinator to communicate with the public. DCCAH saw an eight percent increase over FY 2007 in overall applications to grant programs.



## Key Performance Indicators – Highlights



# How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- Utilized Arts Learning and Outreach funds to award 42 grants to DC-based artists and organizations to conduct arts education programs in DC Public and Charter Schoolas part of an after-school program.
- Provided free tickets and transportation to arts and cultural events to 30,000 DCPS and Charter School students through its "Arts for Every Student" program.

#### What external factors influenced this indicator?

 The staff turnover resulted in difficulties recruiting applicants to the Agency's Teacher Mini-Grant program, which led to the actions described above.

# How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- Staff began conducting technical workshops at sites throughout the District to encourage broader participation and target underserved communities.
- Introduced the Public Art Building Communities grant program in FY 2008.
   Approximately 25 percent of the applicants in this program had not received funding from CAH within the previous five years.

## What external factors influenced this indicator?

CAH's new office location in the Columbia
 Heights neighborhood established a
 presence in a neighborhood that houses
 multiple arts and community organizations,
 as well as individual artists. This presence
 allowed the Agency to interact more directly
 with constituents and encourage them to
 become involved with its activities.



## Key Performance Indicators – Details

Performance Assessment Key:

Fully achieved Partially achieved Not achieved Data not reported

	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08	FY08	FY09
-	OBJECTIVE 1: Provide access to the arts for all District resid		Target	Actual	Projection
	None applicable to this objective				
-	OBJECTIVE 2: Promote lifelong learning and interest in the	arts and arts educ	ation for all a	ages.	
	Percent of DC Public and Charter Schools served <sup>1</sup> 58%	63.3%	65%	66%	68%
	OBJECTIVE 3: Build communities through public and private	e partnerships in t	he arts.		
	Percent of applications received from new applicants <sup>2</sup>	4.3%	5%	17%	5%
	standard processing time of 8 weeks	87%	85%	92%	85%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Through student or teacher attendance or participation in-school or after-school activities, events, exhibitions, workshops or seminars that are directly sponsored by DCCAH or that are provided by DCCAH grantees.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  New applicants are those who have not received funding from DCCAH within the last 5 years.